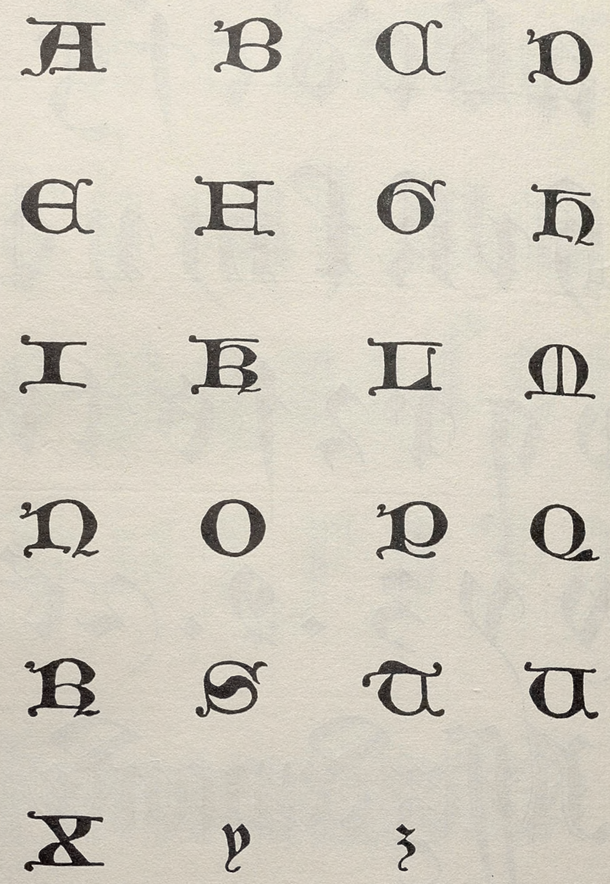

LIST OF THE ADDITIONAL LETTERS

FOllowing these four styles of French letters, that is to say, *Cadeaulx, Forme, Bastarde,* & *Tourneure,* I have drawn for you the letters which the aforesaid Sigismund says to have been used by the Persians, the Arabs, the Africans, the Turks, and the Tartars; for he speaks thus of those which I have copied after him: *Questo Alphabetto serve a Persi, a Arabi, Aphricani, Turchi, e Tartari.* That is to say: 'This alphabet is used by the Persians, the Arabs, the Africans, the Turks, and the Tartars.' These letters must be read toward the left like the Hebrew, and their names are as follows, beginning always at the end of a line: *Aliph, Be, Te, The, Zim, Che, Chi, Dal, Zil, Iz, Xe, Sin, SSin, Sat, Zat, Ty, Zi, Hain, Gain, Fe, Caph, Eiep, Lam, Mim, Nim, Vau, Eliph, Lam, Ge, Nulla.* These are thirty in number, and there are some which are named like the Hebrew, although they are different in form.

I Have followed the said Sigismund Fante, also in the names and figures of the *Chaldaic* letters, which are twenty-two in number & are also written from right to left, like the Hebrew & Arabic letters. Their names are as follows: *Aleph, Beth, Gimel, Daleth, He, Vau, Zain, Heth, Theth, Iod, Caph, Lamed, Mem, Nun, Samech, Hain, Pe, Zadi, Cof, Ress, Scin, Tau.* The said Fante says that the Hebrews used them in the time of Moses, when they were in the desert. His own words are as follows: *Questo soprascritto Alphabetto e Caldeo el quale usuano, li Hebrei nel tempo de Moyse nel deserto.* That is to say: 'This alphabet is the Chaldaic, which the Hebrews used in the time of Moses in the desert.'

THEN, after the Chaldaic letters, come in their order the *Goffes* and *Lourdes,* which Sigismund Fante calls *Imperial* and *Bullatic* letters; but I call them *Goffes* & *Lourdes,* because they were left in Rome at the time when the Goths conquered it and reduced it to ashes, together with all learning and letters, in such wise that, if it had not been for the volumes of the Digests, the whole Latin language would have perished and been destroyed. The unhappy Romans, then, after their destruction, in their anger with the Goths, when they wished to say something was lumpish, they called it *Gotte,* and as time passed on it was corrupted into the word *Goffe,* which word they use to this day for anything lumpish and uncomely.